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Imagery analysis report

**Unusual Bunkering Activity
At Guanghua (Kuang-hua) Airfield
Wuhan Military Region, PRC**

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UNUSUAL BUNKERING ACTIVITY AT GUANGHUA (KUANG-HUA) AIRFIELD WUHAN MILITARY REGION, PRC [REDACTED]

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ABSTRACT

1. [REDACTED] This report summarizes bunkering activity observed at Guanghua (Kuang-hua) Airfield, Wuhan (Wu-han) Military Region, People's Republic of China (PRC). Seven photographs and a locator map are included in this report.

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INTRODUCTION

2. [REDACTED] Numerous bunkered facilities have been constructed at Guanghua Airfield [REDACTED] 185 nautical miles (nm) northwest of the city of Wuhan, Wuhan Military Region (MR; Figure 1) since renovation was begun in October 1976. Some bunkers were constructed as part of the renovation while others have been constructed since the airfield was returned to operational status in April 1979. Renovation consisted mainly of resurfacing/lengthening the runway and constructing additional POL storage facilities and apron parking. A FAGOT/FRESCO aircraft training regiment is currently based at the airfield.

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BASIC DESCRIPTION

3. [REDACTED] Bunkering activity completed during renovation of the airfield primarily included the landing approach aids—inner (Figure 2), middle, and outer marker beacon sites. Two bunkers, one near each end of the runway, are adjacent to the alert aprons and parking areas for spotlight vehicles (spotlight vehicles are used for marking runway approaches during night operations; Figure 3). The function of these two bunkers could not be determined, but they are possibly related to alert or spotlight operations.

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4. [REDACTED] Bunkered facilities constructed after the airfield was renovated include two high-frequency (HF) radio communications (radcom) sites, one possible command bunker, and one unidentified facility.

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5. [REDACTED] The two HF radcom facilities are Guanghua HF Radcom Facility East Bunkered [REDACTED] 1.2 nm east of the reference point (RP), and Guanghua HF Radcom Facility NE Bunkered [REDACTED] 2.2 nm northeast of the RP. Guanghua facility east consists of two bunkered structures and 12 horizontal dipole antennas (Figure 4). Guanghua facility northeast consists of one bunkered structure with two entrances, a small support area, and 16 horizontal dipole antennas (Figure 5). These two HF sites are probably related to the 49th PRC Air Force Radar Regiment, which is reported, tentatively, to be located in this general area.¹ The antenna azimuths from both sites were plotted along with known air warning radar sites within a 140-nm radius. Twenty-four of the 28 azimuths passed within 10 nm of a radar site.

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6. [REDACTED] A possible command bunker in the late stages of construction is adjacent to one of the general housing and support areas (Figure 6). The bunker consists of a long, narrow, buried structure with one entrance, one cooling pond, and two unidentified buildings. It is connected by cable to the new terminal building adjacent to the transient parking apron. No collocated antennas have been observed.

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7. [] A bunkered facility of undetermined function is 1.2 nm east of the RP (Figure 7). It is wall secured and consists of a tunnel/bunker with an entrance at both ends, five barracks/support buildings, and one messhall.

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CONCLUSIONS

8. [] Extensive bunkering activity associated with the approach aids, possible command and control, and with a radar regiment has been seen at Guanghua Airfield. Conversely, no construction of aircraft revetments, bunkers, or storage tunnels has been observed. The absence of additional aircraft protection presents an apparent paradox that remains unanswered.

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9. [] The presence of the bunkered HF radcom facilities indicates that the 49th PRC Air Force Radar Regiment is probably located at this airfield. A radar regiment is believed to control an air defense sector and manage that sector through its subordinate radar sites. If the regiment is at the airfield, this would be the first photographic identification of a radar regiment radcom facility in the PRC.

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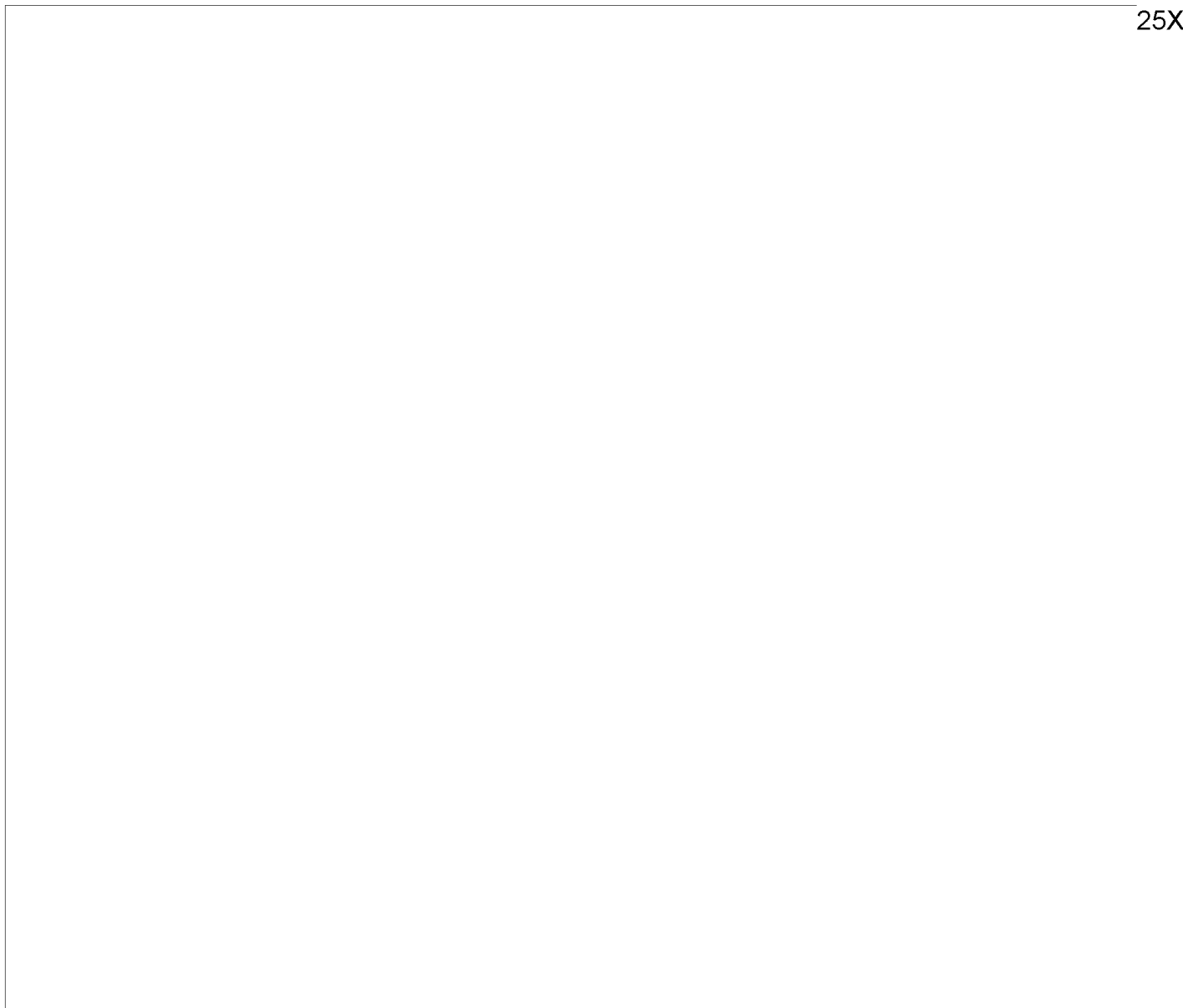
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DOCUMENT

1. DIRNSA. 2/00/11259-79, *National Designators of Nanjing Military Region Radar Regiments (SC)*, 13 Jul 79 (SECRET/S)

REQUIREMENT

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